

>> BAND of the week

BILLY BAUER BAND



Katie Strzeszewski Special to Merge

A strong work ethic, good sense of humor and a willingness to make sacrifices helped the Billy Bauer Band get as far as it already has. Always modest, Bauer and his bandmates speak of their crazy tour schedule, regular gigs, and regional showcases as if they are no huge deal.

But even with that type of modesty, the folk/rockish/Americana band certainly appreciates every opportunity that comes its way. Sometimes they enjoy getting out to a larger venue that will help get the word out about the band, but other times, they simply prefer to stay closer to home playing in venues and for people who have provided the band with consistent support.

● **Genre:** folk/acoustic/alternative

● **Band members:** Billy Bauer (guitar, vocals), Chris Lorenzetti (violin), Zack Martin (drums), Steve Zalalas (bass)

● **Influences:**

Dave Matthews Band, John Mayer, Howie Day, John Denver, Goo Goo Dolls, Jack Johnson

Upcoming Shows:

● **If you could play any venue, what would it be?**

Billy: Red Rocks Amphitheatre in Colorado without a doubt. It's carved into a mountain. There probably shouldn't even be an amphitheatre there, it should probably be a national park. But it's all natural acoustics, so it's gotta sound amazing.

Steve: There's a theater in Pompeii, Italy, where Pink Floyd did one of their videos ...

Chris: I thought you were going to say Mount Olympus in Greece.

Billy: Chris doesn't care. As long as there's somebody to play for.

● **If your music were to be used in any movie, what movie would it fit with best?**

Billy: *O, Brother Where Art Thou?* type of movies. I like the southern feel and the southern style of life where it's kinda country, but it's not.

Chris: Something thought-provoking, too. Some of the songs have deeper meanings to be incorporated into [movies] like that.

● **If you could play back up for any band, or if you had to be a cover band for any band, which would you choose?**

Billy: Dave Matthews Band. No doubt. I can play most of their songs already. I taught myself guitar by listening to their [material]. He's a huge influence, and you can hear it in our music.

Chris: Classic rock stuff like Kansas. Something more rock-infused. Or progressive rock.

● **Web sites:**

www.billybauerband.com

www.myspace.com/billybauer

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